



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GUATEMALAN MAN INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY FOLLOWING FATAL CRASH ON I-70

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Guatemalan man who was involved in a fatal traffic accident on Interstate 70 in Boone County, Mo., in which five persons were killed, was indicted by a federal grand jury today for illegally re-entering the United States.

Gelson Omar Mancilla-Santiago, 22, a citizen of Guatemala, was charged with re-entry after deportation in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Jefferson City. Today's indictment replaces a federal criminal complaint filed on June 22, 2005.

Today's indictment alleges that **Mancilla-Santiago**, who had been deported from the United States on Oct. 25, 2004, was found near Columbia, Mo., on June 19, 2005.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original criminal complaint, **Mancilla-Santiago** was involved in a traffic accident that occurred in Boone County on that day. Five persons were killed and 15 injured when the 2001 Chevrolet van in which they were riding crashed near Columbia, Mo.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the indictment is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony P. Gonzalez. It was investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow